



# The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen

St. Joseph's Church  
Bolton Rd

St Edward's Church  
Blackburn Rd

**Parish Office**  
Church House  
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**Priest's Residence**  
St. Joseph's Presbytery  
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**01254 702026**

[www.darwencatholic.org.uk](http://www.darwencatholic.org.uk)  
Priest Fr. Brian Kealey

**"If you love me, you will keep my  
commandments"**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter in Year A**

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**St Edward's**

**St Joseph's**

**Happy Birthday wishes to Sir David Attenborough who celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> year this week**

Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 p.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Sixth Sunday of Easter in Ordinary Time in Year A
Monday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Tuesday		9.30 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	May Rosary Mass followed by tea coffee cake and the formation of a political party to fight the next local elections dedicated to the free flow of traffic on Bolton Road.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday	<b>2.00 p.m.</b>		<b>Requiem Mass Pat Tedeschi RIP</b>
Friday	9.15 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	<b>7th Sunday of Easter in Ordinary Time Year A</b>

### First communion meeting for parents

These are to take place on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May** at 2.00pm in St Edward's Parish Hall and at 6.00 pm in St Joseph's church.

### Collection this weekend

All of this weekend's collection will be going to Palestine to help work with the victims of military conflict. The region is very dependent upon tourism and is continually threatened by constant violence. It is hoped we will be able to directly give to the Arab Christians maintaining the holy places, but it is proving difficult to find a way to send the money. We shall see !

### First Communion Dates

The children of our parish are busy preparing for an important milestone in the journey of their faith. The dates are as follows.

**St Edwards** Sunday 7th June 1.00 p.m.

**St Josephs** Sunday 28th June 1.00 p.m.

Confirmation Wed 24th June

### May Rosary

The Knights of St Columba will be leading the Rosary each Tuesday morning during May starting on Tuesday 5th May at 9.30am (prior to the 10.00am Mass) at St Edward's.

Please come along and support this activity as May is the month dedicated to Mary. By joining in the Rosary you will ask Mary to act as an intermediary to her Son Jesus.

### Summer Coach Trip

We have booked a coach for **Thursday 2nd July** to take us off into the sunshine. At the moment the route will be up to Bowness-on Windermere in the Lake District, followed by an afternoon stroll around Kendal. There is still time to make further suggestions as to alternatives. Further details on all the arrangements are to follow. The main thing is we now have the coach booked. So come along enjoy and relax.



**Live-Stream St Joseph's:**

<https://www.churchservices.tv/darwen>

A special word for all those at home who follow the Church services on our streaming service. You remain very welcome and a real part of our praying community.

### Mass Intentions

**Lately Dead:** Kieran O'Conner (LD), Natalia Barbah Jayne (LD), Patricia Tedeschi (LD), Sjoerd Eisma (LD)

**Anniversary:** Percy Scott, Esther Holden, Pauline Nuttall, Ian Procter from a loving family, Herbert Sandbach, Harry Mears.

**Special Intention:** For a special intention.

### A Musical Afternoon

The Knights of St Columba would like to thank everyone who supported and helped with our successful social event at St Edward's Parish Hall last Sunday 3rd May. The highly talented Reece Thomas played guitar and sang hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's and everyone seemed to have enjoyed it, especially the dancers!

It was a great community event.

We hope to hold another event soon, hopefully in October. Watch this space!

### Summer Chester Zoo Trip

This heavily sponsored family trip to the zoo will be on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August**. The price is £5.00 for a child (15 years or below) and £7.00 for an adult.

To book places put the total fee in an envelope and write the name of the family, the number of children, the number of adults and a telephone contact number and put through either church door. There are limited numbers so get booked as soon as you can and book time off work.

### Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

This group meets in St Joseph's Hall each Friday with a 7.00pm start. The group is extremely welcoming and have an Open Meeting on the first Friday every month for family, friends or professionals.

All other Friday meetings are closed meetings for those with a drinking problem who want to stop. Contact 07963795427 or 07990598651.

### Thought for the Week

Be quick to judge yourself, but slow to judge others.

### Conference of Clergy

Fr Brian attended a day's conference on the development of the Church in Salford diocese with fellow clergy this week. The age and shortage of Clergy was a major issue. This coupled with the reduction in mass attendance. However the Church was seen as 2000 years old, so although change is inevitable this may not be a bad thing

### Gift Aid

We kindly urge all members of our congregation, who unfortunately have to pay UK taxes, to consider making their weekly donation to the church using Gift Aid. This simple step enables us to increase our income at no extra cost to you, as the government adds 25p for every £1 you donate. Once set up you will simply place your donation into a Gift Aid envelope and place this into the offertory basket. Your generous weekly support through Gift Aid will help us sustain our vital initiatives and help maintain the church for future generations.

Please speak to Glenda Brindle at St Joseph's Church or Julie Ainsworth at St Edward's Church for further information and help with the easy setting up of Gift Aid. All that is needed is your name, address and signature and we will do the rest. Your contribution will make a difference.

### A Plea for Support

We are asking for help in providing readers or Eucharistic Ministers for the Saturday evening services at St Joseph's. These duties are not as onerous as you may think and would help Fr. Brian and our existing volunteers to share the load. Help and support will be given. Speak to Glenda or Dave Witherington.



### St Joseph's School

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### St Edward's School

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### Rotas this weekend 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Readers Sat: 6.15 pm:** D. Witherington

**Sun 9 am:** S. McMillan **11am:** J. Fitzgerald

**Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15** P. Craven

**Sun 9 am:** M.R. Gordon **11 am:** C. Avino

### Rotas next weekend 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Readers Sat 6.15pm:** P. Craven

**Sun 9 am:** G. Brindle **11am:** P. Simms

**Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15pm:** D Witherington

**Sun 9 am** G. Brindle **11am:** P. Corran